(f) if so, what are the details thereof and by when it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER FOR CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Certain events like the outbreak of the Gulf war and disturbed conditions in some parts of the country had affected the first few months of the Visit India Year. However, there has been a turn-around in tourist arrivals since May, 1991.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The measures to boost tourism in the country during 1992 would include continued improvement of tourist facilities, opening up of new areas and wider publicity of tourist attractions.

(e) and (f) A review of the tourism policy has been initiated and it would be finalised in consultation with the State Governments and other agencies.

Agitation by engineers of the Indian Airlines

*245. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that while the engineers of Indian Airlines were agitating in October this year to press for their demands, the pilots and other highly paid categories of staff also joined hands with them pressing for their own demands;

(b) if so, what were the demands of these categories of employees; and

(c) what was Government's stand in respect of each of them and how the issues were resolved?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) While the Aircraft Maintenance Engineers of Indian Airlines had resorted to a 'go slow' in the first week of October, 1991 on the issue of parity in pay with Aircraft Maintenance Engineers of Air India, some pilots reported sick on the 3rd/4th November, 1991 in protest against transfer of 8 pilots from Delhi and Bombay to Calcutta.

(c) The issue of parity in pay scales of Engineers has been referred to the National Industrial Tribunal. As regards transfer of pilots to Calcutta the management of Indian Airlines will follow the usual transfer policy in such cases.

लिग्नो-बिटुमिनस भण्डारों का गैसीकरण

*247. श्री रामसिंह राठवा : क्या कोयला मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने गुजरात में 800 मीटर से अधिक गहराई वाले लिग्नो-बिटुमिनस भण्डारों की गैसीकरण परियोजना आरम्भ कर दी है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है और इस संबंध में क्या प्रगति हुई है ?

कोयला मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री पी० ए० संगमा) : (क) और (ख) तेल और प्राकृतिक गैस आयोग, मेहसाना (गुजरात) में इन-सीटू गैसीकरण पर एक पायलट अनुसंधान एवं विकास परियोजना के साथ एक मॉडल अभिकरण के रूप में कार्य कर रहा है। अभी तक इस संबंध में किए गए अनुसंधान एवं विकास कार्य को नीचे दर्शाया गया है :—

1. तकनीकी अध्ययन रिपोर्टों को तैयार किया जाना ;
2. दो सूचना कुंओं की ड्रिलिंग ;
3. भू-सर्भिक मॉडल तैयार किए जाने के लिए पायलट क्षेत्र का 3 डी भू-कंपीय सर्वेक्षण ;